

## ADOPT A HIGHWAY SAFETY BRIEFING

The following safety guidelines shall be followed when participating in litter removal activities along Arizona's highways. **Each** volunteer or participant should be provided with a copy of this briefing prior to arrival at the worksite. Our combined efforts to keep Arizona beautiful are going a long way toward improving the appearance of our highways.

- ⇒ All participants in the cleanup program shall receive a safety briefing prior to reporting to the job site.
- ⇒ Participants should assemble in an area away from the designated worksite and **carpool to** reduce the number of cars at the litter pickup site. Always park at least 30 feet from the road edge.
- ⇒ Safety vests must be worn by **all participants at ALL times** during cleanup activities.
- ⇒ Litter pick up shall not be performed within six (6) feet of the roadway, upon bridges, culverts, or structures of any kind. Litter clean up activities can be expanded to include the median, but only if the ADOT-issued permit specifically includes the median.
- ⇒ Litter clean up can be performed only during daylight hours and good weather. **Do not** pick up litter during hours other than those agreed upon with your ADOT representative.
- ⇒ **Do not pick up hazardous materials** such as car batteries, animal carcasses, needles, urine bottles or any other object that appears questionable.



### **URGENT INFORMATION – METH WASTE!**

Any type of red stained glassware, coolers, tubing, and chemicals could be dangerous, particularly

- ▶ **RED TUBING** (stained) – NEVER TOUCH.
- ▶ **CLOSED COOLER OR ICE CHEST** – DO NOT OPEN! May contain anhydrous alcohol which, when inhaled through normal breathing will burn your lungs immediately!
- ▶ **KITTY LITTER BAG WITH TUBING** – DON'T TOUCH! Consists of very dangerous residue; much of it explosive.
- ▶ **CORRODED PROPANE TANK (blue valves)** – DON'T TOUCH!

Methamphetamine addiction is the #1 drug problem in America today and it is the number one illegal drug contributing to violent crime in Arizona. It takes 680 tablets of pseudo ephedrine to produce 1 ounce of methamphetamine, so for every pound of meth produced, there can be 5 – 6 pounds of waste (apparatus, glassware, chemicals, kitty litter, tubing) generated. Everyone should know this material could be anywhere—on the right of way, in rest areas, dumping sites, etc.

Best rule of thumb – if you are at all uncertain – **DON'T TOUCH IT** AND INFORM YOUR LOCAL DPS



"What are YOU looking at?"

- ⇒ Cross the highway **only** at designated locations and cross **as seldom** as possible. Designated crossing locations should be determined by the group coordinator prior to starting work.
- ⇒ Do not **distract motorists** with horseplay or abrupt erratic movements. Horseplay of any kind is strictly forbidden. The highways are potentially very dangerous.
- ⇒ **Stay out** of utility installations, culverts and drainage structures.
- ⇒ Keep away from any highway construction or maintenance projects. These are ADOT's responsibility.
- ⇒ Work as a group facing oncoming traffic at all times.

- ⇒ **NO ONE** under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, or medications **IS ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE** in the cleanup activity. It is the responsibility of the group coordinator to remove that person from the group.

Place filled litter bags 6 - 8 feet from edge of the roadway shoulder/pavement.



- ⇒ Use correct lifting techniques, keeping your back as straight as possible. Keep the object you are trying to lift close to your body and let your legs and arms do the work. Do not try to pick up heavy objects.
- ⇒ Use caution when you encounter the following: *cactus, animals, steep slopes, sharp rocks, insects, barbed wire, traffic and other unusual circumstances.*



Adopt a Highway participants are encouraged to recycle.

- ⇒ Assure that **enough water is available** and in sufficient quantity to meet your group's needs. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- ⇒ At least one person in your group should be certified in CPR and experienced in administering first aid. Assure that first aid kits are available and that transportation is available to the nearest medical facility (most local fire stations offer CPR certification).
- ⇒ Wear comfortable, appropriate clothes, gloves, hats, boots, or hard-soled shoes. Participants **should not** wear shorts or tank tops.

## SIZE OF GROUPS/AGE REQUIREMENTS

- ⇒ Participants **below the age of 12 are not permitted** at the worksite and volunteers younger than 18 are not permitted in the highway median. ⚡
- ⇒ It is recommended that you maintain a working group of six to ten people.
- ⇒ Remain with the group to which you are assigned.
- ⇒ Supervisors shall be assigned to both adult and youth groups before departing for the worksite.
- ⇒ The group shall provide adequate supervision, which is determined to be at least one adult, 21 year of age or older, for every 10 participants between 12 and 18 years of age.



ADOT is a proud sponsor of the **Litter Hotline** that allows the public to report people they observe tossing things out of their vehicle or accidentally littering from an uncovered load. You will need to note the license plate number (AZ plates only), item tossed or blown from the vehicle, make of the vehicle, time of day, location, and date. A letter is then mailed to the litterer along with an Arizona Clean and Beautiful car trash bag for them to use and put their litter where it belongs!



Call the Litter Hotline! **1.877.3LITTER** (354.8837) or report online at:

<http://www.arizonacleanandbeautiful.org>



ADOT is a proud member of



Phoenix Metropolitan Area



Flagstaff Stormwater Advisory Committee



Pima Association of Governments Stormwater Advisory Team